For the Rev. Wm Morehead from his affectionate Brother
The Author
269

Dr. *Pemberton's*

DISCOURSE

Occasioned by the Death of the Reverend

GEORGE WHITEFIELD,

DEPARTED THIS LIFE

At *Newbury-Port*, On Lord's Day Morning, September 30th. 1770.

ÆTATIS 56.

BRITISH MUSEUM

HEAVEN the Reſidence of the SAINTS.

A

SERMON

Occaſioned by the ſudden, and much lamented DEATH of the

REVEREND

GEORGE WHITEFIELD, A. M.

Chaplain to the Right-Honourable the Counteſs of HUNTINGTON.

who died at Newbury Port, Sept. 30. 1770, ætatis 56.

Delivered at the Thurſday Lecture, in *Boſton*, Oct. 11.

BY

EBENEZER PEMBERTON, D.D.

PASTOR OF A CHURCH IN BOSTON.

BOSTON:

Printed by D. KNEELAND, for JOSEPH EDWARDS, in *Corn-hill*.

MDCCLXX.

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MDCCLXX.

A FUNERAL DISCOURSE.

I. St. Peter i. 4.

To an Inheritance —— Reserv'd for you in Heaven.

THE desire of Happiness, is common to all intelligent Beings; It is so interwoven in the constitution of human Nature, that it can never be seperated from it. It animates the Prince upon the Throne, and the Peasant in his humble Cottage. It springs up in our Breasts in the early Dawn of Life, it attends us in our maturer Age, it does not desert us at the gates of Death, but accompanies us through every Period of our Existence.

WE all desire to be Happy—But the greatest part of Mankind, know not where this Blessing is to be obtained.

obtained. They erect their *Altars* to imaginary *Idols*, and ſeek Satisfaction in ſenſual Indulgencies, which inevitably diſappoint their Expectations.

THE Complaints of all Ages, are ſufficient to convince us, that this Earth is not the Place where Happineſs is to be found. Its brighteſt Days are ſhaded with melancholly Clouds—Its ſweeteſt enjoyments are infected with many bitter Ingredients—Its higheſt Pleaſures afford, only a tranſient Flaſh of Delight, and frequently end in Satiety and Diſguſt.

WE find by conſtant Experience, that the ſcenes of the preſent life, are perpetually varying: A ſucceſſion of Hopes and Fears, of Joys and Sorrows, attends us from the Cradle to the Grave.

MUST we then renounce all Hopes of Happineſs forever, and reſign ourſelves up to a dark and inconſolable Deſpair?——No! THE CREATOR and FATHER of the Univerſe, has not conſigned man his favourite offspring, to unavoidable Miſery,—*He is the rewarder of them that diligently ſeek Him.* He has provided an Happineſs for them, beyond the Dominion of Death.—The preſent Life is the infancy of our Being; if we improve it aright; we ſhall ſhortly *attain, to the ſtature of perfect men in* CHRIST JESUS, and enter upon a nobler State of Exiſtence:—While upon Earth, we inhabit

inhabit *a valley of Tears*; but Heaven is the ſeat of unmingled Felicity and Joy.

THIS Hope, the Apoſtle ſets before the primitive Chriſtians, to ſupport them, under their diſtinguiſhing Trials—to animate them to the zealous Diſcharge of the various Duties of the Chriſtian Life—*Bleſſed be God, The Father of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, which according to his abundant Mercy, hath begotten us again to a lively Hope, by the Reſurrection of Jeſus Chriſt from the Dead: To an Inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away*; RESERVED IN HEAVEN FOR YOU.

IN ſpeaking to the words of my Text, I ſhall ſhow,—That Heaven is the appointed reſidence of the People of God in a future World—and then take a View of ſome of the magnificent Deſcriptions, which are given of Heaven in the Word of God.

FIRST, I am to ſhow, that Heaven is the appointed Reſidence, of the People of God in a future World.

They have here no continuing City. Heaven is the place, deſigned for their eternal Abode—Into this place the penitent Thief was tranſlated immediately after he expired upon the Croſs: Our Bleſſed LORD, amidſt the Agonies of diſſolving Nature, addreſſes him in language becoming the PRINCE OF LIFE.—*This Day thou ſhalt be with me in Paradiſe.*——Into this delightful abode,

Abode, the ſpirit of departed *Lazarus*, was conveyed by miniſtring Angels. No ſooner was he deliver'd from the Sorrows of this mortal State, but he was admitted to the refreſhments of *Abraham*'s *boſom*.

THE *Spirits of juſt men*, while upon Earth, reſide in *Tabernacles of Clay*, which muſt ſhortly be reſolved into their original Duſt. But they have a *Building not made with hands, eternal in the Heavens*. Even while they dwell in this the land of their *Pilg ge*, they ſeek *a better, even an heavenly Country*, God who condeſcends to ſtile himſelf their FATHER and their FRIEND, will not diſappoint thoſe Hopes, which are founded on the Promiſes of his Word, but will exceed their largeſt Expectations.

THE inlivening Proſpect, of an entrance into this happy Place, reconciled St. *Paul*, to the thoughts of his approaching Diſſolution: *He* deſir'd *to be abſent from the Body, that he might be preſent with the Lord*.

WHEN our divine Maſter, took an affectionate farewel of his favourite Apoſtles, He comforted them, with this kind and condeſcending Promiſe. *I go to prepare a Place for you; I will come again and receive you to my ſelf; that where I am, ye may be alſo*.

WE know, that when our BLESSED LORD, had finiſh'd his work upon *Earth*, He was received into the

the *higheſt Heavens.* In the View of his aſtoniſh'd Diſciples, attended with a radiant Guard of Angels; He entered into the Courts above, *to appear for us in the Preſence of God. Him muſt the* * *Heaven of Heavens receive until the Times of the Reſtitution of all Things.* If then, the Souls of departed Saints, are to be with Chriſt; as we are aſſured by the unerring Oracles of Truth—they muſt be received into Heaven. For that is the Place, where our Bleſſed Redeemer reſides: From thence He iſſues out his authoritative Orders, and governs the worlds of *Nature* and *Grace,* for the advantage of his *Church.*

SECONDLY. WE now proceed to take a View of ſome of the Magnificent Diſcriptions that are given us of Heaven in the Word of God.

WE are indeed, at preſent, too diſtant from this ſuperior World, to form an adequate Idea of its Excellency and Glory. It is in a great Meaſure an unknown Country: Its Glories are covered with a Veil: They are only diſcovered by an Eye of Faith.—Let us extend our View, to the utmoſt Limits of our preſent Capacity, we ſhall form as defective Conceptions of theſe exalted Regions, as a Man confined all his Days to a ſolitary Dungeon, of the Pomp and Grandeur of the moſt magnificent Palace.—But, bleſſed be God, tho'

* Act. 3. 21.

we are not capable of a full View, we may take a diſtant Proſpect of the heavenly World. We are not left intirely in the dark; we may form ſome faint Conception of the Happineſs of thoſe who are admitted into it.

THE SON OF GOD, deſcended from Heaven, *to bring Life and Immortality to Light*. He has given us ſuch an Account of this unſeen State, as is adapted to our preſent Situation and Circumſtances. Enough is diſcovered to inſpire us with ardent Deſires after it, and engage us to the moſt active and earneſt Endeavors to prepare for it. Though we muſt paſs through the *Shades of Death* before we enter into this Land of Life and Light; yet we may View it as deſcribed in the Sacred Scriptures. While travelling through this dark and uncomfortable Deſert; we are permitted to behold as in a *Landſcape*, the promiſed *Canaan*.

THE ſtrongeſt Images are employed, to ſhadow out, its inviſible Glories. The charms of Nature and Art, are deſcribed in ſtrains of the ſublimeſt Eloquence, to give us the moſt lively Proſpect, of the Happineſs of its Glorified Inhabitants.

IT is repreſented as *a* CITY.—Not like thoſe erected by human Hands, which are often diſturbed by inteſtine Diviſions and deſtroyed by hoſtile Neighbors—But a *City* founded upon an immoveable Baſis *whoſe Maker*

Maker and Builder is God. Its Citizens, are forever exempted, from the aſſaults of Pain, the Ravages of War, and the Fury of the Elements. It is free from thoſe melancholly Accidents, which have often depopulated the moſt flouriſhing Communities, and transformed the ſuperb Palaces of Princes, into heaps of ruin.—Into this *City*, entereth nothing that defileth or diſtreſſeth its Inhabitants—There is no *Night*, for the Preſence of the *Lord God* ALMIGHTY, *enlighteneth it.* The Beams of his Bleſſed Countenance, form a perpetual and unclouded Day.

BUT further, to give us the moſt exalted Idea, of the Dignity and Privileges to which the Righteous are advanced—They are repreſented as poſſeſſing a KINGDOM—A *Kingdom*, is the utmoſt wiſh of ambitious and aſpiring Mortals. To Enjoy this, they form the moſt artful Intrigues, encounter the moſt formidable Dangers, wade through Fields of Blood and often ſacrifice the Lives of their deareſt Friends.—If they ſucceed to the Extent of their Wiſhes, how often are earthly Kingdoms, undermined by ſecret Treachery, or overthrown by open Violence—The Crowns of Princes, are lined with Thorns; their diſtinguiſhed Heads, become the Marks, againſt which the Shafts of Envy and Malice, are perpetually diſcharged: Their Adminiſtration is rendered uneaſy

by popular Diſcontents, and the public Tranquility deſtroyed, by Schemes of Ambition and Avarice.

BUT the *Kingdom of the Juſt*, is at all Times free, from theſe diſagreable Circumſtances. There *the Lord* GOD OMNIPOTENT *Reigneth*: The moſt conſummate Wiſdom, impartial Juſtice, condeſcending Goodneſs, are diſplayed, in every Part of the Divine Government. Univerſal Love reigns in every Breaſt. The Laws of Peace, Order and Harmony, are invariably obſerved, through all the *Heavenly Manſions*.

HEAVEN is called the *Kingdom of God*; becauſe it is the choſen Reſidence of the ſupreme Monarch of the Univerſe.—Here he has erected his Throne, and fixed the Seat of his eternal Empire.—Here he appears in the Grandeur and Majeſty of a GOD, and diſplays the awful and amiable Perfections of his Nature. His ſmiles perpetually irradiate theſe Regions. A ſenſe of his Love, diffuſes unutterable Joy, to all the Subjects of his extenſive Dominion. *Myriads* of adoring *Seraphs*, ſurround his Throne, and with the voice of Triumph, celebrate the Honours of their King. Clothed with the Charms of unfading Beauty; poſſeſſed of Angelic Strength and Vigor; they ſtand before Him in ſhining Ranks, and with quick Obedience, perform His Sovereign Orders.

THE

THE Spirits of departed Saints, immediately become Members of this pure and perfect Society, are admitted to the ſame Dignity, partake of the ſame Joys, and with unutterable Tranſport, join in the ſame *Hallelujah*'s—The Rays, which continually proceed from the SON OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, ſpread Life and Joy, through every Part of this Holy Community. All that *die in the Faith of God's Elect*, are appointed to dwell in this Kingdom, and are the Favourites of the KING OF KINGS. They all ſhare in its Honours Riches and Delights.—They are adorned with the Title *of Kings and Prieſts unto God*—In this Character they *ſtand before the Throne of God, and ſerve Him Day and Night.* Clothed with the unſpotted Robes of the Mediators Righteouſneſs, they ſhine with tranſcendent Glory.—Each wears *a Crown* upon his Head, to intimate the Honour to which he is advanced—All have *Palms in their Hands*, as Enſigns of Victory and Triumph.—What is the Splendor of an earthly Court, when compared with the dazling Luſtre in which the *Sons of God* appear *in the Kingdom of their Father.*

I ADD, the Habitation of the Righteous, is not only deſcribed as a Place of *Dignity*, but Pleaſure. To guard againſt the imaginary Dream of a *Mahometan Paradiſe*; its Pleaſures are repreſented as pure and ſpiritual; ſuch as exalt our Natures, and form us to a Reſemblance of the Great *Father* of our Spirits.

IN this Celeſtial PARADISE, ample Proviſion is made to ſupply the Wants, ſatisfy the Deſires, complete the Happineſs of the illuſtrious Reſidents—They are freed from thoſe Diſorders of Body, thoſe Diſtreſſes of Mind, which attend us through every Stage of our Pilgrimage upon Earth. None of the *Inhabitants ſay they are Sick*: They flouriſh in immortal Youth and Vigor. The reviving Preſence of God, baniſheth all Sorrow from their Breaſts, and his own kind Hand wipes *all Tears from their Eyes.* THE LAMB, *which is in the Midſt of the Throne feeds them with the heavenly Manna*, and *leads them to Fountains of living Waters.*—Then ſhall be fulfilled in the ſublimeſt Senſe that conſolatory Promiſe. * *Behold the Tabernacle of God is with Men, He will dwell with them, and they ſhall be his People, and God Himſelf ſhall be their* GOD.——This contains every Thing which is Requiſite, to complete and perpetuate our Happineſs.—An Happineſs, ſuperior to our largeſt Deſires—An Happineſs which ſurpaſſes our higheſt Imaginations!

APPLICATION.

THIS Diſcourſe will naturally lead us to many profitable REFLECTIONS—The Time will permit me to mention only two.

I. HENCE we ſee, the aſtoniſhing Folly of thoſe, who attach their Affection to the Vanities of the preſent

* Rev. 21. 3.

present Life, and neglect the Glories of a future World.

WHO can behold without a Mixture of Compassion and Grief, inconsiderate Mortals, seeking Happiness where it is not to be found, and after a thousand Disappointments, pursuing a Deluding Phantom?—Captivated with pleasing Dreams, they despise, the only Felicity of a rational and immortal Mind.—With unceasing Toil, they ransack the whole Creation, in search of Something, which will satisfy their Desires, and in every Place, they meet with *Vanity* and *Vexation*. To use the Language of Inspiration, *they spend their Money for that which is not Bread; and their Labor for that which satisfieth not.*——To increase their Unhappiness, often they mistake a fatal Poison, for an agreable Enjoyment: With eager Haste they take down the intoxicating Draught, which consigns them over to Death and Misery. They vainly expect to be happy, in a World, that lies under the *Curse* of the ALMIGHTY, and stupidly neglect that World, where Blessedness flows in an uninterrupted Stream, and makes *glad* the CITY *of God*. Happiness is purchased for us by the SON OF GOD, and the Gospel invites us to secure this inestimable Gift.——But alas! Men are so infatuated, that they choose to walk in the prohibited

[a] Isai. 55 2.

prohibited Paths of Vice, though they lead to Hell, and are unwilling to obſerve the appointed road of Duty, though it conducts us ſafely to the Glories of Heaven. They remain the voluntary Slaves of Satan; when they might appear in the Character of the Sons of God. They wallow in thoſe ſordid Luſts, which they enjoy in common with the Beaſts that periſh, and deſpiſe the Dignity and Bleſſedneſs of the Angels of Light.

How awfully is human Nature degraded from its Primitive Rectitude! How aſtoniſhing is the Madneſs of Mankind!—The Service of God is neglected, that we may follow the Dictates of Appetite and Paſſion: Heaven is undervalued for the tranſitory Delights of Earth.—The Man who looſes a Kingdom, that he may ſpend his Time in trifling Amuſements—The man who forfeits an immenſe Eſtate, for a momentary Pleaſure, is not guilty of that Extremity of Folly—as the Wretch, who forfeits the Favor of God, that he may enjoy the ſmiles of the World, and excludes himſelf the Joys of Paradiſe, that he may live without Reſtraint, in the Pomps and Delicacies of the preſent Life. What is the Grandeur of a Monarch! What the Wealth of the *Indies*! What the Pleaſures of the moſt proſperous Senſualiſt! when compared with the unfading Honors, the incorruptible Treaſures, the tranſporting Delights, which are reſerved for the People

of

of God. What Darkneſs veils the Underſtanding! What Stupidity poſſeſſes the Minds of Men! that they *prefer the Things which are ſeen and temporal, to the Things which though unſeen are eternal.*

CONSIDER, O Sinner! though the Objects of Senſe, may now captivate your Heart, and render you inattentive to the moſt important Intereſts; in a little Time, your Folly will be manifeſt, before the aſſembled World of Angels and Men. Covered with unutterable Confuſion, you will be obliged to confeſs the Abſurdity and Extravagance of your Conduct—With what Amazement will you View this Earth, the Seat of all your Joys, become a Sacrifice to the Wrath of an avenging God!—What Agonies muſt you feel, when thoſe brutal Satisfactions, for which you have forfeited the Joys of the Divine Preſence ſhall eſcape from your Embraces for ever? With what Terror muſt you behold a deſpiſed and inſulted SAVIOUR, deſcend from Heaven, in the *Majeſty* and *Glory* of an *Almighty Judge*!—With what regret, will you ſee the *Patriarchs* and *Prophets*, and all the Saints and Servants of God, rejoicing in the *Kingdom of their Father*; while you are condemned to *Blackneſs of Darkneſs for ever*!

LET the Conſideration of theſe Things, awaken you out of your Security, and excite you to flee from the *Wrath to come. Give all Diligence to be found of your Judge in Peace*—That when this lower World ſhall

be enwrapt in Flames, and all its admired Glories vaniſh into Smoke, you may poſſeſs, *an Inheritance, incorruptible and undefiled, that fadeth not away*, reſerved for you in Heaven.

II. How unbecoming is it, for the Heirs of Heaven, to imitate the manners of this corrupted Earth.

SHALL the *Sons and Daughters of the moſt* HIGH GOD, act and live like the Children of this World?—Shall they who are appointed *to inherit all Things*, inceſſantly toil for thoſe Enjoyments *which periſh in the uſing*?—Is it not below the Dignity of a Chriſtian, to indulge the leaſt Attachment to the criminal Pleaſures of Sin and Senſe—Is it not a Diſgrace to our Character, to purſue the Honours and Advantages of this Life, by the low and unmanly Arts of Fraud and Falſhood—Shall not the Candidates for an unfading Crown, look down with a generous Contempt, upon the infamous Practices of Inſincerity and Ingratitude?—Shall they who are deſtined to enjoy a Kingdom, be ſolicitous to obtain, the Favour and Applauſe of miſtaken and miſguided Mortals?—Shall they who have an unperiſhing Treaſure in Heaven, meanly ſtoop to grovel in the Duſt of the Earth, to obtain thoſe Riches, which are deſtroyed by a thouſand Accidents?—Shall they who expect ſhortly to be admitted into the pure and perfect Society of Saints and Angels, befond

of

of thoſe glittering Trifles, thoſe defiling Amuſements, which form the Happineſs of Men, who live *without God, without Chriſt*, and *without Hope, in the World*?---No,—If we *are fellow Citizens with the Saints*, and *belong to the Houſehold of God*; it becomes us to *have our Converſation in Heaven*; *from whence we look for the* GREAT GOD, our SAVIOUR. We ſhould imitate his inſtructive Example, *who for the Joy ſet before him, endured the Croſs, deſpiſing the Shame*: With unreluctant Chearfulneſs, we ſhould trace the moſt thorny Road, which leads to the Seats of Bliſs: With undaunted Fortitude, we ſhould diſdain the Frowns and Flatteries of the World, when they divert us from the Path of Duty: With unfainting Patience, we ſhould paſs through the Trials and Tribulations of the preſent State; * *Knowing that our light Afflictions which are but for a Moment, work for us a far more exceeding, and eternal Weight of Glory.* If by the ſovereign appointment of Heaven, we are called to ſuffer the Loſs of all Things, in the Cauſe of our Adorable Maſter, we may chearfully make the Sacrifice—What is the Wrath of Man, in compariſon with the Wrath of an Omnipotent God?—Man may perſecute us to Death, but the Grave places us, beyond the Reach of their Cruelty and Malice:—They may diſmiſs us from an uneaſy World, but they cannot exclude us the Delights

* 2. Cor. 4. 17.

of Paradiſe—They may remove us from this *Valley of Tears*; but this will introduce us into the *Joy of our Lord*—* *Bleſſed are the Dead which die in the Lord, from henceforth, Yea, ſaith the Spirit, that they may reſt from their Labors, and their Works do follow them.*

THIS naturally leads me to ſpeak of my deceaſed Friend and Dear Brother, the Rev. Mr GEORGE WHITEFIELD, whoſe ſudden and lamented Death, occaſioned the preſent Diſcourſe.—I am not fond of funeral Panegyricks, which are adapted to flatter the Dead, oftner than inſtruct the Living. But where Perſons have been diſtinguiſhingly honored by Heaven—and employed to do uncommon Service for his Church upon Earth, it would be criminal Ingratitude, to ſuffer them to drop into the Duſt, without the moſt reſpectful Notice—*The Memory of the Juſt is Bleſſed*—Poſterity will view Mr. Whitefield, in many reſpects, as one of the moſt extraordinary Characters of the preſent Age. His Zealous, Inceſſant and Succeſsful Labors—*In Europe* and *America* are without a Parallel.

EARLY devoted to God, he took Orders as ſoon as the Conſtitution of the Eſtabliſhed *Church* in ENGLAND allowed. His firſt Appearance in the Work of the Miniſtry, was attended with Surpriſing Succeſs. The

* Rev. 14. 13.

The largeſt Churches in *London*, were not able to contain the Numbers that perpetually flocked to hear his awakening Diſcourſes—The Crouds daily encreaſed. He was ſoon forced into the Fields, followed by Multitudes, who hung with ſilent Attention upon his Lips, and with Avidity received the Word of Life. The Spirit of God, in uncommon Meaſures, deſcended upon the Hearers. The Secure were awakened, to a ſalutary Fear of Divine Wrath; and enquiring Minds, were directed to JESUS the only *Saviour* of a revolted World.—The vicious were viſibly reclaimed, and thoſe who had hitherto reſted in a *Form of Godlineſs*, were made acquainted with the Power of a Divine Life—The *People of God*, were refreſhed with the Conſolations of the *Bleſſed Spirit* and rejoiced to ſee their exalted Maſter, going on *from Conquering to Conquer*, and Sinners of all Orders and Characters, bowing to the Sceptre of a *crucified Saviour*.

HIS Zeal, could not be confined within the BRITISH ISLANDS: His ardent Deſire for the Welfare of immortal Souls, conveyed Him to the diſtant Shores of AMERICA. We beheld, a New *Star* ariſe in the *Hemiſphere* of theſe *Weſtern Churches*, and its ſalutary Influences were diffuſed, through a great Part of the *Britiſh* Settlements, in theſe remote Regions. We heard with Pleaſure from a Divine of the *Epiſcopal Communion*, thoſe great Doctrines of the Goſpel, which

our venerable Anceſtors, brought with them from their native Country.—With a Soul elevated above a fond Attachment to uninſtituted *Forms* and *Ceremonies*, he inculcated that pure and unadulterated Religion, for the Preſervation of which, our Fathers baniſhed themſelves into an uncultivated Deſart.—In his repeated Progreſſes, through the Colonies, he was favoured with the ſame Succeſs, which attended him on the other ſide of the *Atlantic*. He preached from Day to Day, in thronged Aſſembl es; yet his Hearers never diſcovered the leaſt Wearineſs, but always followed Him with encreaſing Ardor. ——When in the Pulpit, every Eye was fixed on his expreſſive Countenance—Every Ear was charmed with his melodious Voice—All ſorts of Perſons were captivated with the Propriety and Beauty of his Addreſs.

BUT, it is not the fine Speaker—the accompliſhed Orator—that we are to celebrate from the Sacred Deſk. Theſe engaging Qualities, if not ſanctified by Divine Grace, and conſecrated to the Service of Heaven, are as *the ſounding Braſs*, and *the tinkling Cymbal*. When miſimproved, inſtead of conveying Happineſs to Mankind, they render us more illuſtriouſly miſerable.

THE Gifts of Nature, the Acquiſitions of Art, which adorned the Character of Mr. WHITEFIELD,

were

were devoted to the Honor of GOD and the Enlargement of the Kingdom of our Divine REDEEMER.—While He preached the Goſpel, the *Holy Ghoſt was ſent down*, to apply it to the Conſciences of the Hearers——The Eyes of the blind were opened, to behold the Glories of a Compaſſionate Saviour—The Ears of the Deaf were unſtopped, to attend to the Invitations of incarnate Love——The dead were animated, with a divine Principle of Life——Many in all Parts of the Land, *were turned from Darkneſs to Light*, and *from the Power of Satan unto God*. Thoſe Doctrines which we had been inſtructed in from our Infancy by our Faithful Paſtors, ſeemed to acquire new Force, and were attended with uncommon Succeſs, when delivered by Him.—His Diſcourſes were not trifling Speculations, but contained the moſt intereſting Truths—They were not an empty Play of Wit, but ſolemn Addreſſes to the Hearts of Men.

To Convince Sinners, that they wereby *Nature Children of Wrath*; by Practice, Tranſgreſſors of the Divine Law; and in Conſequence of this, expoſed to the Vengeance of offended Heaven——To diſplay the tranſcendent Excellency of a *Saviour*, and perſuade awakened Minds to confide in *his Merits* and *Righteouſneſs*, as the only *Hope* of a guilty World——To Impreſs upon the Profeſſors of the Goſpel, the Neceſſity, not only of an outward Reformation, but an internal

ternal Change by the powerful Influences of the Spirit———To lead the Faithful, to a zealous Practice of the various Duties of the Chriſtian Life, that They may evidence the Sincerity of their Faith, and adorn the Doctrine of GOD their SAVIOUR——Theſe were the reigning Subjects of his Pulpit Diſcourſes—

IF Sinners were Converted—if Saints, were built up in Faith, Holineſs and Comfort, He attained his utmoſt Aim.

HE was no contracted Bigot, but embraced Chriſtians of every Denomination, in the Arms of his Charity, and acknowledged them, to be the Children of the ſame Father—Servants of the ſame Maſter—Heirs of the ſame undefiled Inheritance.

THAT, I am not complimenting the Dead, but *ſpeak the Words of Truth and Soberneſs*, I am perſuaded I have many Witneſſes in this Aſſembly.

HE was always received by Multitudes, with Pleaſure, when He favoured theſe Parts with his Labours. But he never had a more obliging Reception, than in his laſt Viſit. Men of the firſt Diſtinction in the *Province* not only attended his Miniſtry, but gave Him the higheſt Marks of their Reſpect—With what Faithfulneſs did he *declare unto us the whole Counſel of God*?——With what Solemnity did He reprove us for our encreaſing Degeneracy—With what

what Zeal did He exhort us, *to remember from whence we were fallen*, and *repent and do our firſt Works, leſt God ſhould come and remove* our *Candleſtick out of its Place.*

UPON every Occaſion, He expreſſed an uncommon Concern, for our *Civil* as well as *Religious* Privileges, the dear-bought Purchaſe of our HEROIC ANCESTORS——With what fervency did He pray that they might be tranſmitted, entire, to the moſt diſtant Poſterity. He embraced every Opportunity, in public and private, to perſuade us, to lay aſide, our party Prejudices and Paſſions; that with undivided Hearts, we might unite in every proper Method to ſecure our future Proſperity.

ANIMATED with a Godlike Deſign, of promoting the temporal and ſpiritual Happineſs of Mankind, after the Example of his Divine Maſter, *He went about doing good*———In this he perſevered with unremitting Ardor and Aſſiduity, till Death removed him, to *that Reſt which remains for the People of God*—Perhaps no Man, ſince the Apoſtolic Age, preached oftner, and with greater Succeſs.— †

† As a Specimen of his indefatigable Labors in the Work of the Miniſtry, I ſet down an Account of the

IF we view his private Character, He will appear in a moſt amiable Point of Light. The polite Gentleman—The faithful Friend—the engaging Companion—above all the ſincere Chriſtian, were viſible in the whole of his Deportment.

WITH

the Sermons he preached after his Arrival at *Newport Rhode-Iſland* to the Time of his Death.

HE ſailed from New-York, Tueſday July 31 P. M. Arrived at *Newport* Friday Aug. 3d.—A. M.

	Preached		
Auguſt	4. New-Port		24. Boſton
	5. New-Port		25. Boſton
	6. New-Port		26. Medford
	7. New-Port		27. Charleſtown
	8. New-Port		28, Cambridge
	9. Providence		29. Boſton
	10. Providence		30. Boſton
	11. Providence		31. Roxbury plain
	12. Providence	Sept.	1. Milton
	13. Attleborough		2. Roxbury
	14. Wrentham		3. Boſton
	15. Boſton		5. Salem
	16. Boſton		6. Marblehead
	17. Boſton		7. Salem
	18. Boſton		8. Cape-Ann
	19. Malden		9. Ipſwich
	20. Boſton		10. Newbury-port
	21. Boſton		11. Newbury-port
	22. Boſton		12. Rowley
	23. Boſton		13. Rowley

From

WITH large Opportunities, of accumulating Wealth, He never diſcovered the leaſt Tincture of Avarice. What He received from the Kindneſs of his Friends, he generouſly employed in Offices of Piety and Charity. His benevolent Mind was perpetually forming Plans of extenſive Uſefulneſs. The ORPHAN HOUSE, which many Years ago, he erected in *Georgia*—— And the COLLEGE, he was founding in that *Province*

From the thirteenth of Sept. to the Seventeenth—He was detained from Public Service by a ſevere Indiſpoſition.

Preached
17. Boſton
18. Boſton
19. Boſton
20. Newton

The 21ſt of September he departed from Boſton upon a Tour to the Eaſtward pretty much indiſpoſed.

Preached
23. Portſmouth New (Hampſhire
24. Portſmouth
25. Portſmouth
26. Kittery
27. Old York
28, Portſmouth
29. Exeter

In this laſt Place he preached in the Morning in the open Air to accommodate the Multitudes that came to hear him—no Houſe being able to contain them—He continued his Diſcourſe an Hour and fifty five Minutes, was greatly fatigued, in the Afternoon ſat out for Newbury Port where he arrived that Evening, went early to bed it being

vince, at the Time of his Death; will be laſting Monuments of his Care, that RELIGION and LEARNING, might be propogated to future Generations.

IN the midſt of theſe generous Projections of publick Utility— The Commiſſioned *Angel* was diſpatched, to diſſolve the vital Tye which detained him upon Earth; and permit the enlarged Mind to aſcend its native Skies.——His Death was ſudden, but not by him undeſired——He often uttered an ardent Wiſh, *to be abſent from the Body, that he might be preſent with the Lord*——He has finiſhed His Work, and we doubt not has received the Approbation of His MASTER and JUDGE. *Well done thou good and faithful Servant, enter thou into the* JOY OF THY LORD.

HE had a quick Tranſition from the Labors of the Church upon Earth, to the ſublimer Services of the Heavenly Sanctuary——He is ſeperated from the Society of his Friends below, but united to the nobler

being, Saturday Night—Intending to Preach the next Morning—He awaked ſeveral times in the Night and complained much of a Difficulty of Breathing—at ſix o'Clock on the Lord's Day Morning he expired in an Aſthmatic Fit and entered upon an everlaſting Sabbath.—Sept. 30. 1770.

nobler Society of ANGELS, ARCH ANGELS and the *Spirits of juſt Men made perfect*——View Him then, not as periſhing in the *Duſt of Death*, but entered into a *World of Glory*———Behold him, worſhipping before THE THRONE OF GOD, not with a Company of frail and imperfect Mortals—but with *the general Aſſembly and Church of the firſt Born*—ſhining in the unſpotted robes of Holineſs; uniting in their *Hoſannah's* and partaking of their Triumphs.

IF you aſk *what is this* illuſtrious Company and *from whence do they come*?———I anſwer in the Words of the *Angel*, in the Viſion of *St. John*.——*Theſe are they, which come out of great Tribulation and have waſhed their Robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb.*

I have not, my *Brethren* drawn an imaginary *Portrait*, but deſcribed a Character, exhibited in real Life—I have not mentioned his natural Abilities, which were vaſtly above the common Standard——I have not ſpoken of the Improvements he made in human Learning, in one of the moſt celebrated Univerſities in the World——I conſider him principally in the Light of a Chriſtian and a *Miniſter* of JESUS CHRIST, in which He ſhone with a Superior Luſtre, as a *Star* of the firſt Magnitude.

AFTER

AFTER all—I am not repreſenting a perfect Man—There are Spots in the moſt ſhining Characters upon Earth.——But this may be ſaid of Mr. WHITEFIELD with Juſtice, that after the moſt public Appearances for above *thirty Years*, and the moſt critical Examination of his Conduct, no other Blemiſh could be fixed upon him, than what aroſe from the common Frailties of human Nature, and the peculiar Circumſtances which attended his firſt Entrance into public Life——The Imprudencies of unexperienced Youth, he frequently acknowleged from the Pulpit with a Frankneſs which will for ever do Honor to his Memory——He took Care to prevent any bad Conſequences, that might flow from his unguarded Cenſures, in the early Days of his Miniſtry——The longer he lived, the more he evidently increaſed in *Purity of Doctrine*, in *Humility*, *Meekneſs*, *Prudence*, *Patience*, and the other amiable Virtues of the *Chriſtian Life*.

WE are now called, to Remember, not only his Pathetic Diſcourſes, but His Excellent Example—We are to follow him, as far as *he followed Chriſt*, the only unſpotted Pattern of Perfection.——

His ſudden Death, calls aloud upon All, to prepare for that great Event, which muſt decide our Deſtiny for ever——From the ſilent Grave, he ſeems to addreſs us in the awakening Language of our Lord to his own Diſciples.—* *Watch ye therefore, for*

* Mark. 13. 35, 36, 37.

for ye know not when the Maſter of the Houſe cometh; at Even, or at Midnight, or at the Cock crowing, or in the Morning; leſt coming ſuddenly, He find you ſleeping. And what I ſay unto you, I ſay unto all, Watch.

THE ſolemn Calls—the faithful Reproofs—the compaſſionate Invitations, you have heard from this deceaſed *Servant of Chriſt*, will aggravate your Condemnation, if you die in Impenitence, or Infidelity.

BE perſwaded then, to trifle no longer with your immortal Welfare—Be awakened, by the Word and Providence of God, without Delay, to proſtrate yourſelves at the Feet of our ALMIGHTY SAVIOUR; and accept of the offers of reconciling Grace—Then when delivered from the *Burden of the Fleſh*, you will be united, with all who are departed, in the Faith *of God's Elect*; and with them, *inherit a Kingdom, prepared for you, from the Foundation of the World.*

A M E N.

[illegible] Hour of the Day or Night, or at Midnight, or at the Cock crowing, or in the Morning; all coming [illegible], like Thief in the Night. And what I say to you, I say unto all.

The Solemn Call—the faithful Reproofs—the compassionate Invitations, you have heard from this decreed Servant of Christ, will aggravate your Condemnation, if you die in Impenitence, or Infidelity.

Be persuaded then, to unite no longer with your former Walks—Be awakened, by his Word and Providence of God, who is [illegible] to [illegible] at the Door of our Assembly [illegible] when delivered from the Power of the Devil, will be united, with [illegible] and with [illegible] in the Faith of God's Elect; and with [illegible] Kingdom of Heaven [illegible] from the Fascinations of the World.

AMEN.